

RALPH T. HUDGENS COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMMISSIONER

> Seventh Floor, West Tower 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Atlanta, Georgia 30334 WWW.OCI.ga.goV

For Immediate Release January 29, 2013

Contact: Glenn Allen 404-463-0729 gallen@oci.ga.gov @GA\_DOI

## **HUDGENS: BIBB COUNTY CHURCH FIRE WAS ARSON**

**Atlanta** – Fire Investigators with Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens' office have determined that a Monday morning fire at the Reaching Souls Cathedral of Praise Church in Bibb County was intentionally set.

Hudgens said there was fire, smoke and water damage to the church located at 5555 Bethesda Avenue, Macon, Ga. The fire occurred at approximately 12:30 a.m. Monday morning.

Anyone with information about this fire is asked to call the Arson Hotline at **1-800-282-5804**. Rewards of up to \$10,000 are given for information leading to the arrest and conviction of an arsonist. Calls are taken 24 hours a day; callers can choose to remain anonymous.

Commissioner Hudgens' Fire Investigation Unit investigated the fire with the Macon-Bibb Fire Department and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives